

DARLINGTON CEMETERY  
Shuresville Road  
Darlington  
Harford County  
Maryland

HABS MD-1231  
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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street NW  
Washington, DC 20240-0001

# HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

## DARLINGTON CEMETERY

HABS No. MD- 1231

- Location:** Shuresville Road, Darlington, Harford County, Maryland.  
The coordinates for Darlington Cemetery are 76.112695 W and 39.382294 N, and they were obtained through Google Earth in November 2011 with, it is assumed, NAD 1983. There is no restriction on the release of the locational data to the public.
- Significance:** Darlington Cemetery was established by the Darlington Cemetery Company in 1881 and designed by William D. Shure, president of the board, according to the contemporary fashion for romantic landscapes with curving paths and ornate plantings. The octagonal chapel was constructed in 1885.
- Description:** This small cemetery landscape includes many features popularized by larger rural romantic cemeteries during the mid-nineteenth century, including curving roads, naturalistic plantings, and decorative iron gates and fencing. The effect was a large public garden further ornamented by the monuments chosen for the individual and family plots. The wood octagonal chapel has a conical roof decorated by a central terra cotta chimney pot. The large windows are capped by decorative wood hoods and the cornice also features decorative brackets typical of Italianate architectural design popular in the third quarter of the nineteenth century.
- History:** The Darlington Cemetery Company, established November 1881 purchased a grassy hillside from the Holloway family. Led by board president William D. Shure, the company laid out curving roads, designated burial plots for sale, and planted trees and shrubs. Construction of the chapel/sanctuary took place in 1885. Perhaps due to the Quaker influence in the community, the cemetery has always been open to all regardless of race, creed, or color.
- Sources:** Christopher Weeks, *An Architectural History of Harford County, Maryland* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1996), 343.
- Historian:** Lisa Pfueller Davidson, HABS Historian, 2006.
- Project Information:** This short form history was prepared to supplement photographic documentation of Harford County, Maryland. During 2005 HABS staff photographer James Rosenthal photographed a series of sites in Harford County in preparation for the *Buildings of Maryland* publication. Maryland Historical Trust sponsored the photography project and is producing *Buildings of Maryland* as part of the Society of Architectural Historians' *Buildings of the United States* series.